

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT : SUZUKI, Takayuki et al.  
SERIAL NO. : Unassigned  
FILED : (Herewith)  
FOR : Endoscope and Endoscopic Instrument and Method Using Same

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

SIR:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application the Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Before the first line on page 1, insert the following:

--This application claims the priority of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/220,204, filed July 24, 2000 --

**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended to claim priority of copending Provisional Serial No. 60/220,204, filed July 24, 2000.

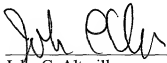
The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any information concerning this application.

An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith. The Information Disclosure Statement lists the references considered by the Examiner in the parent application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 23, 2001

  
John C. Altmiller  
Registration No. 25,951

KENYON & KENYON  
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20005-1257  
Tel: (202) 220-4200  
Fax: (202) 220-4201